

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINSHA 01425 181005Z

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ACTION SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6551

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 1425

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, CG, OVIP (ROBINSON, CHARLES W)

SUBJECT: UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON'S VISIT TO ZAIRE

REF: A. KINSHASA 1335; B. STATE 34987

1. REF B REQUESTED NOTIFICATION OF LIKELY REQUIREMENTS FOR STATEMENTS OR TOASTS BY THE UNDER SECRETARY, GOZ PLANS TO HIGHLIGHT THE UNDER SECRETARY'S VISIT SO IT IS PROBABLE THAT HE WILL HAVE SEVERAL OPPORTUNITIES TO MEET INFORMALLY WITH THE ZAIRIAN PRESS IN ADDITION TO PRESENTING A FORMAL ARRIVAL STATEMENT. THESE MEETINGS WITH THE PRESS WILL MOST LIKELY OCCUR AT HIS ARRIVAL, AFTER HIS TRIP TO INGA (SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY MORNING, FEB 22), FOLLOWING HIS BREAKFAST MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MOBUTU (CURRENTLY SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY MORNING FEB 23), AND AT HIS DEPRTURE. THERE WILL BE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE EMBASSY TO PROVIDE INTERPRETATION AS NECESSARY. AS THERE IS NO PUBLIC DINNER SCHEDULED DURING THE UNDER SECRETARY'S STAY WE DO NOT BELIEVE ANY TOASTS WILL BE NECESSARY.

2. REF A SUGGESTED PREPARATION OF ARRIVAL STATEMENT; GOZ'S MOST RECENT PLANS INCLUDE TELEVISION COVERAGE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY'S AIRPORT WELCOME BY A STATE COMMISSIONER. SUGGEST AF/C MAY WISH TO COORDINATE WITH UNDER SECRETARY'S STAFF ON WORDING OF ARRIVAL STATEMENT. TOPICS COVERED SHOULD INCLUDE BRIEF SKETCH OF EVER-GROWING US-ZAIRIAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION, WITH SOME MENTION
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PAGE 02 KINSHA 01425 181005Z

OF THE INGA-SHABA TRANSMISSION LINE AS AN EXAMPLE OF

OUR CONTRIBUTION TO ZAIRE'S DEVELOPMENT OF ITS OWN RE-SOURCES. THE GOZ WOULD NO DOUBT BE PLEASED WITH NOTICE OF ZAIRE'S ROLE IN THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE AND MOBUTU'S INTERNATIONAL ROLE AS HE BEGINS HIS SECOND DECADE AS CHIEF OF STATE. THERE SHOULD BE NO MENTION BY USG AGENCIES OF THE UNDER SECRETARY'S PLANNED TALK WITH PRESIDENT MOBUTU UNTIL THE ANNOUNCEMENT IS MADE BY GOZ.

3. ANY FURTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC STATEMENTS CAN BE TAKEN CARE OF AT POST OR HANDLED INFORMALLY.

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ASAP THE TEXT OF THE UNDER SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL STATEMENT SO WE MAY PREPARE FRENCH COPIES FOR DISTRIBUTION TO PRESS AT AIRPORT WELCOME.
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